

APPLICATION  
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TITLE: A MODEL FOR MODIFYING DRILL DATA TO PREDICT  
HOLE LOCATIONS IN A PANEL STRUCTURE

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**A MODEL FOR MODIFYING DRILL DATA TO**  
**PREDICT HOLE LOCATIONS IN A PANEL STRUCTURE**

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

**1. Field of the Invention**

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The present invention relates to a method of creating a mathematical model which is employed in the determination of at least one work location in a multi-layered laminated circuit panel. More particularly, the invention is directed to the creation of a mathematical model for modifying drill data which takes into consideration translational and rotational compensations caused by the encountered stretching or shrinking of the multi-layered panel subsequent to pressing or due to thermally processing, whereby the mathematical model may be utilized to modify drill data in order to accurately predict hole or via locations.

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In the implementation of pressing and/or thermal processes employed in producing multi-layered panels for semiconductor packages, such panels frequently will stretch or shrink in non-uniformly translational and rotational aspects, and consequently may be the source of erroneous locations in the formation of holes or vias which are drilled into the panels, thereby rendering the panels unsuitable for installation in electronic packages, and subjecting the processes to economic losses for the manufacturers.

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At times, such positional errors in the formation of fiducial holes or vias and slots by means of laser drilling are encountered when utilizing the same machine, such as a drilling apparatus, with the same drilling location set up. Currently, the only

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translational compensation which is incorporated into the drilling data for drill machines employed in forming holes or vias in panels, such as those for electronic packages or printed circuits, fail to provide any integrated vision systems. This renders any corrections for distortions encountered in the multi-layered panels to be difficult to attain so as to be able to compensate precisely for distortional stretching or shrinkage

conditions which are encountered during the pressing or thermal processing of the panels prior to effectuating their drilling.

## **2. Discussion of the Prior Art**

5 Although numerous publications are presently available, which direct themselves to providing for various types of error compensations, such through the utilization of algorithms and various mathematical programs adapted to compensate for misalignments and distortions in multi-layered printed circuit boards or panels in order to optimize hole or via drill positions, none of these have been able to adequately 10 precisely overcome the distortion problems which are encountered, inasmuch as there is no accounting for encountered dimensional stability problems or compensation factor calculations in both translational and rotational position error considerations.

Whitcomb et al. U.S. Patent 6,030,154 uses a search algorithm to find better holes 15 locations; in fact, tries to find new location in the local of the existing one. However, while establishing change increment, it will vary only to scale shrinkage/growth about the panel center on either x- or y-direction (not both) along with other parameters: i.e. x and y translation, and rotation about the panel center. That means, the patent will establish a change increment in a matrix combination of either ( $T_x$ ,  $T_y$ ,  $S_x$ , rotation) or 20 ( $T_x$ ,  $T_y$ ,  $S_y$ , rotation).

To the contrary, the present invention employs an exact mathematical model to predict the better locations for the holes. The model includes translation and scaling (on both x- and y-directions) and rotational compensations, however, the term "rotation" in 25 applicant's disclosure means the change of the angle between two parallel lines after completion of the pressing processes.

Since U.S. Patent 6,030,154 uses a numerical search algorithm, the obtained results cannot be used to modify the data file before importing into a drill machine, but must be 30 manually input by the operators to the drill machine's controllers.

In the present disclosure, the resulting compensation factors can be very easily used to modify the data file before importing into the drill machine, for instance, such as to write a simple program that can modify every single point's coordinates using the exact mathematical model.

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Forehand et al U.S. Patent 5,710,063 discloses a method to prepare fiducials on a panel, whereby an optically-aligned drill, such as Dynamotion Drill with "Smart Drill" option, is positioned over the panel and adapted to precisely align the bit of the drill with these fiducials. This is not relevant to the present disclosure.

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Kosmowski et al. U.S. Patent 5,529,441 differs from the present invention in that different mathematical modes are used to predict hole location; in effect, the patent uses the least squares best fit, while a simple mathematical model is used in my disclosure. In the patent, each panel is being analyzed to determine the compensation factors and 15 drilled with modified data on the same apparatus. Statistical data gathering from a batch of panels is suggested to be used for improving other process registrations, such as lamination registration. To the contrary, in the present invention a batch of panels is being analyzed to determine the compensation factors. Drill data is then modified and fed into drill machines that do not have an integrated vision system to drill the panels.

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Amman et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,206,820 discloses a method adapted to analyze panel misregistration in a printed circuit board. It requires a mean to align the center of the panel with the center of the master pattern etched on a glass reference. Then the detected corner offsets of the panel are measured and transformed into eight primary parameters, which are directional shifts  $\Delta x$  and  $\Delta y$ , rotation with respect to center of the panel  $\theta$ , directional distortions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , shear  $\gamma$ , and directional expansions  $\varepsilon_x$  and  $\varepsilon_y$ . In fact, these eight parameters are the coefficient or a combination of the coefficients of 25 the models:

$$U = a_0 + a_1x + a_2y + a_3xy,$$

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$$V = b_0 + b_1x + b_2y + b_3yx.$$

where U and V are the horizontal and vertical displacements of the detected corners. A set of these eight primary parameters collected from a sampling of panels selected from a manufacturing lot is then used to calculate advanced parameters. Such advanced parameters including the average, the standard deviation, and the range of the primary

5 parameters are claimed as critical means to analyze panel misregistration.

Thus, this patent uses different mathematical models to understand the probable causes of panel misregistration, whereas the method of the present invention to modify data due to the shrinkage/stretch of the panels.

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Araki U.S. Patent 5,223,536 pertains to a method of perforating a printed circuit board with a pair of perforating devices. The distance between the two perforating devices is adjusted to be equal to the actual distance of two patterns on the panel, which is detected by an image processing device. Then the two perforating devices perforate the

15 printed circuit board at the same time. Thus, this patent is completely irrelevant to the present inventive concept.

Alzmann et al. U.S. Patent 4,829,375 is directed to a method and apparatus for automatically punching tooling slots or holes into a panel. The apparatus employs a

20 vision system to locate two fiducial marks on the panel, wherein the vision system defines references for the fiducial targets and preset reference. A positioning system moves the panel to position the fiducial marks on the panel directly in relationship to the preset references. After the positioning operation, tooling slots or holes are punched on the panel. Thus, this patent has nothing in common with the present invention.

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Zachman et al. U.S. Patent 5,111,406 discloses a method that engages a fixture on a multi-layered panel. The fixture is carefully prepared with fixture holes that correspond to the locations of the fiducial pads on layers of the panels. The patented apparatus uses x-rays to capture at the same time, coordinates of the measured locations of the fiducial

30 pads on a multi-layered panel and coordinates of the ideal locations of the fixture holes. These coordinates from a sample of panels are then analyzed by a "Best Fit algorithm".

The offsets are fitted to produce a single offset value that may be sent to a drilling machine to determine a position for drilled holes in the panel. Thus, unlike the present invention, this patent mainly discusses the method and apparatus used to determine the fitted offsets that are added to each of the ideal drill coordinates. In addition, it is not

5 known as to how the "Best Fit algorithm" actually works, and in any case has nothing in common with the present invention.

Hale et al. U.S. Patent 4,123,695 is directed to a method using a vision system to automatically position the drill bit to a desired location; therefore, is completely

10 irreverent to the present invention.

Wilent et al U.S. Patent 4,790,694 discloses a method and apparatus intended to determine locations of three fiducial marks on a multi-layered printed circuit board prior to drilling. The patent employs the best least square fit to minimize any misaligning

15 between four target areas on the board and the precisely located target holes on a template. After optimization, three fiducial marks are punched along one edge of the board. These three fiducial marks are then used to position the board in a drilling apparatus.

20 Japanese Patent JP 3136708 discloses a method of employing an image pickup device to obtain the coordinates of register marks at several positions in a work piece, then boring process will be adapted to geometrical distortions of the workpiece.

Finally, European Patent EPO 669792 is primarily a European version of U.S. Patent  
25 5,529,441 to Kosmowski et al., and the comments directed thereto are equally applicable to the European patent.

### **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

In essence, none of the prior art patent publications are adapted to provide a method of  
30 creating a mathematical model for modifying drill data employed in the drilling of holes or vias in a multi-layered panel or printed circuit board, which takes into account both

translational and rotational compensations in x and y directional planes due to the stretching or shrinking of the panels encountered due to pressing or thermal processing of the panels. Although the present invention is directed to the translation and scaling in both x and y directions, the rotational compensations generally are directed to

5 meeting the change in the angle formed between two parallel lines subsequent to the pressing or thermal processing of the panels.

In particular, the inventive concept is essentially contemplated in applying the measurement of some features of a panel, generally, preferable for each panel prior to  
10 lamination; implementing lamination of the multi-layered panels; measuring these features subsequent to lamination; utilizing an algorithm to calculate the rotation and scale of coordinate offsets which are encountered in the x and y directions; modifying the data file; and finally drilling the panel based on the modified data file of the information conveyed to a drilling apparatus or machine.

15 Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to derive a method for determining at least one work location in a multi-layered laminated circuit panel by providing a first circuitized core element having fiduciary marks, providing at least one additional metallic element, providing a data file having reference coordinates of the multi-layered  
20 circuit panel work locations and also having the reference coordinates of the fiduciary mark locations of the first circuitized core element with the reference coordinates of the fiduciary marks of the first circuitized core element, creating a modified work location by adjusting the data file with the rotational and scale coordinate offset of the fiduciary mark locations, and modifying the multi-layered circuit panel at the modified work  
25 location.

The foregoing object is obtained by utilizing an algorithm for modifying drill data to locate a multi-layered circuit panel location fiducia utilizing panel rotation, shrinkage expansion and distortion subsequent to lamination of the various panel layers.

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Moreover, it is also an object to modify a drill data base so as to produce a drill machine fiducia in a multi-layered circuit panel subsequent to lamination thereof by providing measured rotation and scale offsets to the drill data base.

5 Another object is to utilize a drill machine with a vision system to measure the after-lamination position of the fiducial marks on the external layer of a multi-layered circuit panel, comparing the position of the fiducial with a drill data base, calculating the offsets and adjusting the drill data base so as to position the holes in compensated locations depending upon the hole coordinates in the multi-layered circuit panel, while  
10 utilizing rotational and scalar adjustments transmitted to the drill data base.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCOMPANYING DRAWINGS**

Reference may now be made to the following detailed description of preferred embodiments of the invention, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings;  
15 in which:

Figure 1 illustrates a diagrammatic representation of the functions x and y which maps the points in a first panel-representing space to corresponding points in a second panel-representing space, before and subsequent to the pressing and/or thermal processing of the multi-layered panel;

20 Figure 2a illustrates the coordinates of the reference points on the panel prior to the pressing or thermal processing of the latter; and

Figure 2b illustrates the actual coordinates of the points referred to in Figure 2a subsequent to the pressing or thermal processing of the panel.

#### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS**

Referring to detail to the inventive disclosure, a drill machine (not shown), such as a so called SMART drill machine as widely utilized in the technology, is employed to drill laser fiducial holes, vias and slots in a circuit board or panel 12. An integrated vision system of the drilling machine measures the actual locations of four flower marks, as  
30 shown in Figure 2a of the drawings. Thereupon compensation factors are computed for each panel prior to drilling the laser fiducial holes and slots, whereby the actual

locations of the laser fiduciary slots and holes have been modified accordingly. The aspects which are to be considered is the manner in which those hole locations have been modified.

5 Inasmuch as a four-point alignment algorithm is employed by the present invention, the following offsets are to be imposed.

X/Y offset between points in the panel and the reference points in the file

Panel rotation offset.

10 Scaling (stretch and shrink) along each axis.

Additional X and Y linear scaling, i.e. accounting for both X as a linear function of Y, and Y as a linear function of X.

15 Inasmuch as the introduction of the panel rotation offset is the primary reason for the encountered "rotational error", the latter in actuality is not an error but is rather, a natural occurrence due to the four-point alignment algorithm.

Set forth hereinbelow is a model for the above-mentioned offsets.

20 Referring to Figure 1 the following is indicated:

Consider two panel spaces: the first panel space 12 contains the reference points in the data file  $(x_i, y_i)$ , the second panel space 14 contains the actual points in the panel  $(x'_i, y'_i)$ . A function  $f(x, y)$  maps the points in the first panel space 12 relative to

25 corresponding points in the second panel space 14 (as shown in Figure 1). That means,

$$x'_i = f_x(x_i, y_i) \text{ and} \quad (1)$$

$$y'_i = f_y(x_i, y_i). \quad (2)$$

30 With regard to the foregoing, the following Table 1 summarizes the forms of functions  $f$  corresponding to the offsets.

Table 1

Offset	$f_x$	$f_y$
X/Y offset between points	$A_x$	$A_y$
rotation	$D_x y/x$	$D_y y/x$
scaling	$B_x X$	$B_x y$
additional scaling	$C_x y$	$C_x x$

Thus,

$$x'_i = A_x + B_x x_i + C_x y_i + D_x y_i/x_i \text{ and} \quad (3)$$

$$y'_i = A_y + B_y y_i + C_y x_i + D_y x_i/y_i. \quad (4)$$

### Determination of the coefficients

It is possible then to easily determine the coefficients A,B,C, and D as follows. For i= 1, 2, 3 and 4, writing equations (3) and (4) for x- and y- directions, wherein,

$$\begin{aligned} 10 & A_x + B_x x_1 + C_x y_1 + D_x y_1/x_1 + x'_1 \\ & A_x + B_x x_2 + C_x y_2 + D_x y_2/x_2 + x'_2 \\ & A_x + B_x x_3 + C_x y_3 + D_x y_3/x_3 + x'_3 \\ & A_x + B_x x_4 + C_x y_4 + D_x y_4/x_4 + x'_4 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} 15 & A_y + B_y y_1 + C_y x_1 + D_y x_1/y_1 + y'_1 \\ & A_y + B_y y_2 + C_y x_2 + D_y x_2/y_2 + y'_2 \\ & A_y + B_y y_3 + C_y x_3 + D_y x_3/y_3 + y'_3 \\ & A_y + B_y y_4 + C_y x_4 + D_y x_4/y_4 + y'_4. \end{aligned}$$

20 The above equations can be written in matrix form as,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1x_1y_1y_1/x_1 \\ 1x_2y_2y_2/x_2 \\ 1x_3y_3y_3/x_3 \\ 1x_4y_4y_4/x_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ B_x \\ C_x \\ D_x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \\ x'_4 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow T_x \Gamma_x = \Omega_x \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1y_1x_1y_1/x_1 \\ 1y_2x_2y_2/x_2 \\ 1y_3x_3y_3/x_3 \\ 1y_4x_4y_4/x_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ B_x \\ C_x \\ D_x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \\ x'_4 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow T_r \Gamma_r = \Omega_r.$$

Thus,

$$\Gamma_x = T_x^{-1} \Omega_x \text{ and } \Gamma_y = T_y^{-1} \Omega_y. \quad (5) \& (6)$$

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Considering to a particular example of the foregoing, in setting forth a model for modifying drill data, reference may now be made to Figures 2a and 2b of the drawings.

### Example

10 Figure 2a shows the coordinates of the reference points (1), (2), (3), and (4) before the panel 12 is pressed. Figure 2b shows the actual coordinates of these points on panel 14 after pressing. Using equations (5) and (6) to determine the coefficients and substituting them into equations (3) and (4), there is obtained,

$$x = -5.1895 (10)^{-3} + 1.0011x - 4.6942 (10)^{-4}y - 1.9595 (10)^{-3}y/x, \text{ and}$$

$$15 \quad y = -4.6562 (10)^{-3} + 0.99991y + 1.9599 (10)^{-5}x - 8.9194 (10)^{-3}y/x.$$

For instance, it is now intended to drill 4 holes at the following locations: P (10, 10), Q(450,10), R(5,332.5), and S(455,322.5). The correct coordinates, in the drill program, should be: P' (9.9992, 9.9955), (Q'(450.4851, 9.9954), R'(4,7225, 32.7805), and

20 S'(455.3425,322.2203).

Computing the angle between the line P'Q' and R'S'. Equation of the line passing P'Q' is  $y = -2.2702 (10)^{-7} x + 9.9955$ , and equation of the line passing R'S' is  $y = 1.2432 (10)^{-3} x + 322.78$ . Take two vectors :  $\{1, -2.2702(a0)-7\}^T$  points along P'Q' and  $\{1, -1.2432 (10)^{-3}\}^T$  points along R'S'. Then the angle between these two vector is 0.001243 radians.

The foregoing should be implemented utilizing a method with the employment with at least 20 multi-layered circuit panels, but preferably not exceeding 41 panels in order to obtain an accurate determination of corrected drill data. Basically, the coordinates of the reference points, indicate to be 4 points on each panel, should be recorded prior to  
5 and subsequent to the pressing or thermal processing of the panels 12, the latter of which upon the processing having been completed become actually the somewhat distorted panels 14.

Thereafter, the coefficients should be computed utilizing the above-referenced

10 equations (5) and (6).

Thereafter equations (3) and (4) should be employed in order to modify the drill data prior to inputting into the drill machine so as to derive the correct locations for the holes, vias or slots which are to be drilled into the panels.

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The foregoing, quite clearly provides for an extremely simple method in being able to correct the locations for proposed drill holes which are supplied to a drill machine, to thereby inexpensively optimize the production of the multi-layered circuit panels for the electronic packages.

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While the invention has been particularly shown and described with respect to preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the foregoing and other changes in form and details may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

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